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PLAN,

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS,

AND

REGULATIONS,

OF

THE ROYAL

SOMERSET JENNERIAN SOCIETY.

BATH,

PRINTED BY WILLIAM MEYLER, IN THE GROVE.

1805.

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SEPTEMBER OF STREET



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SOMERSET JENNERIAN SOCIETY,

FOR THE

EXTERMINATION OF THE SMALL POX

PATRON,

His Royal Highness the Duke of York.

PRESIDENT.

The Right Hon. Earl Poulett, Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Somerset.

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Attendance is given by the Surgeons every Monday, at three o'clock, at the Agricultural Society's Rooms, Hetling-House, for the gratuitous Inoculation of all the Poor who may apply; and Stations are now arranged in every part of the County of Somerset, according to the Plan and Regulations of the Society, with the assistance of able Medical Gentlemen for the same purpose.

Subscriptions are received at Messrs. Hobbouse, and Co.'s Bank.

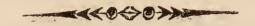
Communications on the Business of the Society, and applications for Vaccine Virus, must be addressed, post-paid, to the Secretary, Hetling-House, Bath.

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INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS.



THE facts which demonstrate the long existing devastation produced by the Small Pox, the imperfect remedy for this evil hitherto afforded by its ordinary inoculation, and the certain means which Vaccine Inoculation offers of its immediate diminution and ultimate extinction, have already been presented to the public consideration. Previously, however, to the delineation of the plan of the Royal Somerset Jennerian Society, it may be proper to recapitulate briefly the following circumstances:—

For many centuries the Small Pox has more than any other plague, contributed to desolate the human race, and scarcely a spot on the habitable globe has escaped its visitation. In some parts of the world it has appeared only occasionally; but with such boundless destruction as to exterminate whole tribes: in other situations it

has formed a fixed and regular source of fatality, In this island, and in other parts of civilized Europe, it has been actually fatal to at least onetwelfth of the human race. More than two thousand deaths annually, for the last fifty years of the eighteenth century, have been the average from Small Pox within the bills of mortality in London, and forty thousand persons within the year, in the united kingdoms, are the fairly estimated number of deaths from this source alone. These direct, consequences of Small Pox, extensive as they appear, are probably but a small portion of the great sum of mischief and fatality which it has produced. Blindness,* deafness, and various scrofulous affections, are its frequent and acknowledged consequences; let it be observed that scrofula in its various modifications of consumption, white swelling of the joints, diseased glands, &c. &c. are more numerous and fatal in their consequences, than the aggregate of all the rest of our known diseases. If Small Pox therefore is once admitted to be a germ of scrofula, how tremendously extensive may be its fruits, and how vast a production of evil may its extinction at once remove. Let us hope therefore,

^{*}In the different receptacles for indigent blind, a majority of these objects have been so rendered by Small Pox.

that vast as must be the immediate advantages of the extermination of Small Pox, its collateral good may be incalculably greater.

The practice of Small Pox inoculation was introduced to mitigate the severity of that disease. accidentally contracted; and if the personal and immediate advantages of the subjects to whom it is applied, were alone to be considered, it must certainly be admitted as a most advantageous commutation for the natural disease. This is not however the view in which we are to contemplate variolous inoculation; the unavoidably partial adoption of this substitute, which has always prevailed, has propagated the natural disorder more extensively. Authentic documents prove an actual increase of the number of deaths from Small Pox in the period of a few years succeeding to the introduction of variolous inoculation; nor has it conferred an exemption from the other evils, besides death, dependent on the disease, destruction of beauty, and of the organs of sense. Scrofula and impaired health have often followed in its train. Small Pox inoculation, under the best regulation, is fatal in a certain proportion, and of those who recover a great majority experience a severe disease.

All these evils, and their wide-spreading extent of consequences, are capable of removal by the

adoption of Vaccine inoculation. It is not here necessary to enter into a history of its discovery, or to go further than to describe its inestimable advantages, and to offer a just tribute of gratitude and praise to him who has universally been recognized and stands recorded by the legislature as the illustrious author of this blessing to mankind—Dr. Jenner. The inoculated Cow Pox is proved by the experience of this country, and that of three parts of the habitable world to be a security against the Small Pox; to be never fatal, and to be a mild and trivial disease, applicable to all ages, seasons and circumstances, incapable of communication by contagion, and entailing no consequences injurious to general health.

On the introduction of Vaccine inoculation, it was immediately hailed as the certain instrument of the annihilation of the Small Pox—so great and glorious a prospect may now certainly be considered as on the eve of being realized.

By the report of the Board of Directors of the Royal Jennerian Society in London, it appears that the annual average of deaths from Small Pox for the last fifty years of the eighteenth century, amounted to more than two thousand. The plan of the Royal Jennerian Society was projected in January, 1803, but its establishment was not complete till some months afterwards. The last

year, viz. 1804, was the period of its most active operation, and above twelve thousand persons were inoculated at this institution. By the report of the annual deaths to December 4, 1804, it appears, that those of Small Pox have undergone an astonishing reduction, being only five hundred and thirty-six, which number is little more than one-fourth of those who have died annually of that disease for fifty years past. the report of the Royal Jennerian Society in London to the Annual General Court, March 6, 1805, it appears that only forty-two persons had died of Small Pox in the preceding two months within the bills of mortality. So convincing and irrefragable a proof as this, renders all further argument respecting the utility of Vaccine inoculation superfluous, and places the extermination of Small Pox, not as an object of speculation, but of certainty.

Impressed with the importance of these facts, several Gentlemen of the first public characters in the county of Somerset and in the city of Bath, convened a meeting for the purpose of forming a Somerset Jennerian Society—a county, the third in rank of the united kingdom, with respect to the proportion of revenue derived to the state, they considered should not be one of the last in establishing an institution so well calculated to pro-

mote the physical strength of the empire. A meeting was consequently held on the first of January, 1805, at the Bath Agricultural Society's rooms; several resolutions preparatory to the framing a plan were agreed upon, and a subscription was entered into for supporting the institution.

The Royal Somerset Jennerian Society therefore most earnestly recommend to the several counties of the united kingdom a speedy and vigorous prosecution of similar measures, and beg leave to call their attention to the highly meritorious example of the county of Sussex; being fully impressed with a conviction that it is by the union of associated bodies alone that the objects of their pursuit can be attained.

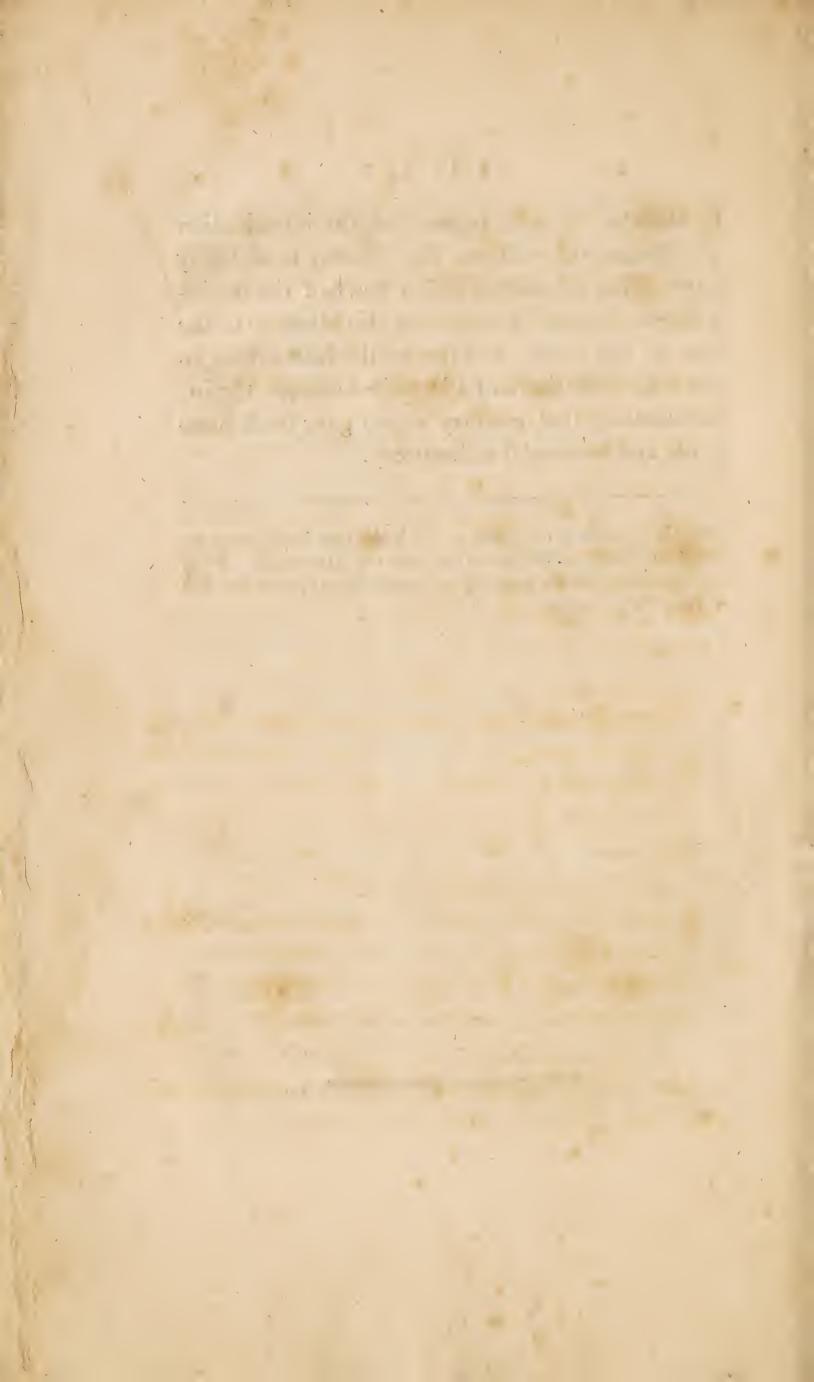
When it is remembered, that at this time Small Pox is extinct in the capital of Germany,* and

^{*} Extract of a letter from Dr. De Carro to Dr. Jenner, dated Vienna, March, 1805:—"I can give you, in a very few words, the actual state of Vaccination in Vienna. According to the bills of mortality published in the Vienna Gazette, two children have died of the Small Pox in this metropolis and its environs, during the year 1804. On inquiry to whom they belonged, it appears that one was the child of a boatman, who caught the Small Pox on the Danube, coming from Suabia; the second, a child which was brought with the disease from the country to the Foundling Hospital, where it died. I am afraid neither London nor Paris can make a boast like this."

By a Report presented to the Annual Festival of the Royal Jennerian Society, May 17, 1805, it appears, that the Small Pox is also nearly

in Geneva, in consequence of the introduction of Vaccine inoculation, this Society confidently trusts, that the nation which has had the distinguished honour of imparting this blessing to the rest of the world, will not be the least ardent in the wide diffusion of its benefits amongst the inhabitants of that country which gave birth to so great and beneficial a discovery.

extinct in Paris and Berlin, 60,000 percons having been Vaccinated by the public establishment of the State in the former city in two months. It was also reported that in the preceding two months only 42 persons had died of Small Pox in London.



PLAN AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

SOCIETY.

1,

THAT this Society being honoured with the gracious patronage of his Royal Highness the Duke of York, be called "The Royal Somerset Jennerian Society for the Extermination of Small Pox."

- 2. That the Right Hon. Earl Poulett, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of comerset, be President of this Society.
- 3. That the Noblemen and Gentlemen whose names are mentioned in the plan prefixed, be Vice-Presidents of this Society, and that the whole number of Vice-Presidents be not less than twenty-four.

- 4. That the civil, medical, and other concerns of this Society be managed until the next general meeting by the Committee of Management, appointed according to a resolution of the proceeding on the first of January last.
- 5. The stations for gratuitous inoculation shall be as arranged in the plan prefixed. Physicians, who may reside in these situations, shall be requested to afford their sanction and occasional consultation in the practice of inoculation, and Surgeons and Apothecaries be engaged at these stations to inoculate the poor gratuitously, or according to parochial regulation, with the Cow Pox, agreeably to the instructions of and with the Matter furnished from the principal establishment of the Royal Somerset Jennerian Society.
- 6. That such Surgeons and Apothecaries do every six months transmit to the Secretary of the Royal Somerset Jennerian Society a register, kept correctly according to the form furnished by the Society, of the persons inoculated by them.—That the Physicians who grant their services for the purpose of consultation and superintendance, be requested to keep a register of any remarkable occurrences in cases at their particular station.
- 7. Parish Officers shall be earnestly requested to have the paupers of their respective parishes

clergymen, and principal Ladies and Gentlemen, shall be solicited to employ their influence for this purpose. Surgeons and Apothecaries inoculating paupers within this county, shall also be desired to make their returns to the Secretary of the Royal Somerset Jennerian Society.

- 8. That Charles Phillott, Esq. be appointed Treasurer of this Society. That he do receive subscriptions and pay all disbursements to the order of the Committee, and that he do lay such accounts before the said Committee once in the year, or oftener if it is deemed necessary. The Committee to be ready to attest such accounts at a general meeting of the Governors.
- g. That Mr. N. Bartley be appointed Secretary to this Society—that he do attend the Committees and the General Meetings—that he keep minutes of all proceedings, and that all correspondence on the concerns of the Society be addressed to him, which he shall attend to, and lay before the Committee; and that he do also transmit Vaccine Virus and instructions according to the directions of the medical officers of the Society.
 - 10. The Committee shall occasionally, when necessary, and also at stated periods, communicate with the Medical Council of the Royal Jen-

nerian Society, and shall also transmit to their Secretary a regular return of proceedings.

- 11. That the Members of this Society, fully aware of the pernicious tendency of Small Pox inoculation, in supporting the existence of a mist chievous contagion, which it is their object to exterminate, do resolve to discourage, by every means in their power, so deleterious and now unjustifiable a practice.
- 12. The Physicians belonging to the Committee shall attend as they think proper, or when requested, the inoculations at the Bath principal station.
- 13. There shall be two officiating Surgeons for the purpose of performing inoculation at the Bath principal station, viz. Mr. Creaser and Mr. Tudor, and they shall keep a register according to the form of the Society, and shall preserve Vaccine Matter for distribution by the Secretary.
- 14. Instructions for Vaccine inoculation, and also registers for taking account of cases shall be printed according to the plan of the Royal Jennerian Society.
- 15. That the Surgeons at their respective stations be requested to procure, if possible, and send to the Society a return of deaths from Small Pox in their respective and adjoining parishes for the last year, and continue such returns yearly in future.

Instructions for Vaccine Inoculation, according to the Rules of the Royal Jennerian Society, and which it is requested the Medical Gentlemen connected with the Royal Somerset Jennerian Society will act accordingly to.

WHEN Vaccine inoculation proves successful, a small red spot, with a degree of elevation and hardness which may be felt, commences on the third day. Between the third and sixth day a vesicle appears, the shape and magnitude of which depend on the mode in which the inoculation has been performed. When a slight puncture has been made, the vesicle will be small and circular.

The edge of the Vaccine vesicle is generally elevated, and the centre depressed, where a speck is visible, darker than the surrounding edge. Sometimes, however, the vesicle is uniformly convex. The vesicle is cellular, and somewhat hard and firm; it is of an opake or pearly white; its contents are limpid and colourless.

In its early stages, and during the progress, it has usually a small inflamed ring round its base at the ninth day this begins to spread, and on the tenth day it attains its full extent; at this time forming an areola or efflorescence of the diameter

of an inch and a half or more. This areola is of a pink or scarlet hue; it is accompanied through the extent of surface which it occupies by some roughness, hardness, and tumefaction of the skin, and the efflorescence has a cloudy and irregular edge. When it has continued stationary a day or two, it begins to diminish, and to assume a darker hue. At the same time the vesicle begins to change its aspect and contents; it turns of a darker colour in the centre, and is gradually converted into a hard, smooth, and shining scab of a dark brown colour. This scab commonly falls off about the end of the third week, and leaves a cicatrix, in which, besides the depression arising from the loss of the true skin, several minute indentations occur.

The above appearances are those which occur in the perfect, regular, and ordinary progress of the Vaccine vesicle; but there are deviations which do not affect its anti-variolous power; such are these:—The vesicle sometimes does not appear till after the expiration of two or three weeks succeeding to the inoculation; but if it then makes regular progress, its effect in producing security against the Small Pox is not impaired. Sometimes the progress of the vesicle is either accelerated or retarded a day or two, and the

efflorescence is consequently earlier or later than the usual period (viz. the tenth day) in proportion. Sometimes there is an entire absence of the efflorescence. None of these deviations are found to lessen the security obtained against Small Pox.

When the vesicle is ruptured by external violence, as scratching, the scab will be less firm and of a lighter colour. If the progress of the vesicle has in other respects been uniform, this deviation does not diminish the anti-variolus power of the Vaccine vesicle.

Spurious Pustules, which afford no security against Small Pox.

THE Vaccine inoculation is not to be considered as perfect, when there is any considerable deviation from the ordinary appearances of the disease; as when premature inflammation, irritation, or vesication occur; when the progress of the vesicle is rapid, its contents purulent and opake instead of limpid, or when a premature efflorescence occurs, which is not vivid, circumscribed, and well defined.

Although the deviations from the accustomed character of the Vaccine vesicle may be accidentally numerous, yet there is one variety which is the most common, and as such is generally described as spurious Vaccina. This consists in the early appearance (viz. on the second or third day) of an inflamed and vesicated spot, exceeding considerably the bounds of the regular vesicle. On the fifth or sixth day this is of a yellow hue, its contents are purulent, and it is surrounded by an irregular inflammation. These appearances rapidly subside, and the vesicle leaves either no cicatrix, or a very trifling one.

The spurious pustule is occasioned either by taking Vaccine virus at too late a period of the vesicle, or by some constitutional peculiarity. It is sometimes found to occur on one inoculated part, when another inoculated part in the same person shall exhibit the due and regular appearance.

On the mode of performing Vaccine Inoculation, and the methods of taking Vaccine Matter.

THE wound in the skin made by Vaccine inoculation should always be as small as possible; the larger the puncture is, the more uncertain is the success of the operation, and the greater is the size of the vesicle and the corresponding efflorescence.

Fluid matter taken immediately from a vesicle should constantly be preferred to dry matter, as its powers of communicating the disease are not only much greater, but the operation is more quickly and easily performed. Every Practitioner should therefore, if possible, procure a succession of patients for the continued supply of fluid matter.

Matter may be taken for the purpose of inoculation, from a genuine vesicle, at any time from the fifth to the ninth day, and it is generally procured in more abundance and with more facility about the eighth or ninth day. It is however to be strictly observed, that Matter should never be taken after the Areola or efflorescence is perfectly formed.

Matter is to be taken from the vesicle by small superficial punctures made in several parts of it by the lancet, held horizontally. The Vaccine Matter will appear in the form of small pellucid drops. This Matter is then to be received on the point of a lancet; and the arm of the patient being elevated, the lancet is to be held horizontally, and introduced a very little way into the

skin, so as to form a minute puncture. The lancet is then to be withdrawn, again charged with Matter and wiped on the puncture. When several successive inoculations are performed, the lancet should be dipped in cold water and wiped after every puncture.

There are several modes by which Vaccine Matter may be preserved; but the most common and convenient, when it is intended for use within a moderate time, is either to take it on the surface of glass, or on an instrument called a Vaccinator, which is a small piece of ivory, shaped like the tooth of a comb. When glass is employed, a small square piece is to have its centre applied over the punctured vesicle, taking care to diffuse the Matter as little as possible over the surface of the glass. When dry it may again be charged, and when again dry, it must be covered with another piece of glass of corresponding size, and wrapped in writing-paper.— When ivory Vaccinators are employed, their points should be dipped in the Vaccine Matter; they should then be dried, and again moistened and dried.

Lancets are improper for the purpose of preserving Vaccine Matter, except for immediate use, on account of its tendency to oxidate the surface of the steel, & to be thereby decomposed. Matter must always be allowed to dry without heat, and should be kept cool.

When Vaccine Matter, preserved on the surface of glass, is to be used for the purpose of inoculation, it must be barely diluted to fluidity by the point of a lancet dipped in cold water. It is then to be introduced by a small puncture in the way described for inoculation by fluid matter.

When the ivory Vaccinator is employed, a puncture in the way before described is to be made with a lancet; the Vaccinator is then to be introduced into the puncture, and held there a few seconds; another Vaccinator may then be wiped on the puncture.

Inoculated patients must be cautioned not to wear tight sleeves, and not to injure the arm by pressure, friction, or violence, lest extensive inflammation and ulceration should ensue.

One Vaccine vesicle secures from all danger of Small Pox; but in many instances it is better to inoculate in both arms, in order to obviate the chance of failure. Lancets used for inoculation should be kept clean and bright.

The Physicians and Surgeons under-mentioned; have most benevolently consented to assist in the design of the Royal Somerset Jennerian Society. The poor may therefore be gratuitously inoculated for the Cow Pox by applying to the Surgeon belonging to the Society in their immediate vicinity. The Nobility, Clergy, Magistrates, Gentlemen, and Ladies are earnestly requested to diffuse this information, and to aid it with their recommendation and influence amongst the poor.

BATH. The Principal Station, Hetling-House, Wells—Mr. Pulsford. Messrs. Spencer and Langley, Surgeons.

Bridgewater—Dr. Dunning. Mess. Symes, Anstie, Haviland, and Cox, Surgeons.

TAUNTON—Dr. Metford, Dr. Blake. Mess. Bryant and Sully, Surgeons.

FROME-Mr. Miller, Surgeon.

SHEPTON-MALLET—Mr. Goldesbrough, Surgeon.

Mells-Mr. Allen, Surgeon.

CREWKERNE—Dr. Proctor. Messrs. Colmer, James and Spicer, Surgeons.

Ansford—Dr. Woodforde.

CASTLE-CARY-Mr. Grant, Surgeon.

Wincanton—Messrs. Blandford and Surrage, Surgeons.

TIMSBURY—Mr. Crang, Surgeon. GLASTONBURY—Mr. Bond, Surgeon. BRUTON-Mr. Knight, Surgeon. CHARD-Mr. Spicer, Surgeon. Somerton—Mr. Bryer, Surgeon. ILCHESTER--Mess. Poole & Sharland, Surgeons. YEOVIL-Mess. Sharland and Son, Surgeons. Wellington -Mr. Langley, Surgeon. WIVELSCOMB-Mr. Sully, Surgeon. MILVERTON-Mr. Warren, Surgeon. STOWEY—Mess. King and Bennett, Surgeons. WATCHETT-Mr. Huxtable, Surgeon. HINTON BLEWITT-Mr. Doolan, Surgeon. AXBRIDGE-Mr. Good, Surgeon. Cross near Axeridge--Mr. Harding, Surgeon. BACKWELL-Mr. BISDEE, Surgeon. Worle-Mr. Chapman, Surgeon. TEMPLE CLOUD—Mr. Jones, Surgeon. WRINGTON-Mr. James, Surgeon. KEYNSHAM-Mr. Edwards, Surgeon.

Mr. Webb, Surgeon, River's-Street, BATH, Inoculator to the poor in the adjoining parishes.

Surgeons are particularly requested to keep registers of Vaccine inoculations according to the form annexed, and to transmit the same to the Secretary of the Society, Hetling-House, Bath, every six months.

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Natural Small Pox, Inoculated Small Pox, and Inoculated Cow Pock.

NATURAL SMALL POX.

INOCULATED SMALL POX.

INOCULATED COW POCK.

In twelve centuries this disease has been known to continue its ravages, destroying in every year an immense proportion of the whole population of the world.

It is a contagious disease, in some instances mild, but for the most part violent, painful, loathsome, and dangerous to life. One in six who have it, dies; and as at least half of mankind have it, one in twelve of the human race perishes by one disease. In London three thousand annually, in the United Kingdom forty thousand.

THERE is considerable confinement, loss of time, and expence during this disease; and those who survive it, are often disfigured by pits and scars.—Sometimes blindness and glandular diseases have been the consequence.

A contagious disease, often mild, but in some instances violent, painful, loathsome, and dangerous to life. One in 300 inoculated dies.

THE confinement, loss of time and expence during the disease, are sometimes considerable; and the consequent deformity is less frequent, but similar to what happens in natural Small Pox.

The inoculation of the Small Pox having been but partially adopted, has been the means of spreading the infection, and has thus increased the general mortality.

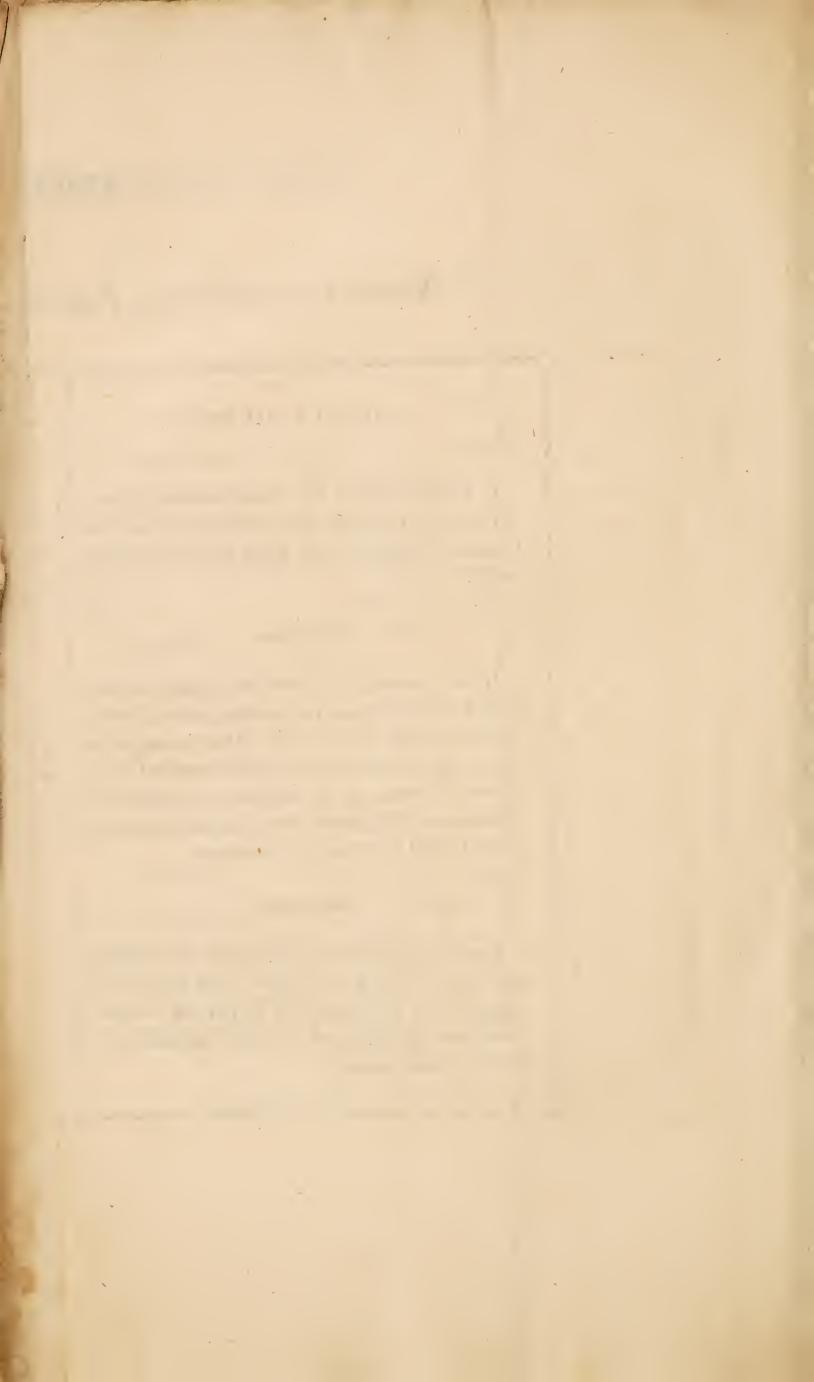
Not contagious, and, when properly conducted, uniformly mild, free from danger, never fatal, and a sure preventive of Small Pox.

It requires no medicine, causes no confinement or loss of time, and very little expence.

It produces no deformity or subsequent disease.

During a long series of years, the Cow Pock accidentally received, has been considered as a preventive against any future attack of the Small Pox. Many persons in the dairy counties, who have had the former in their youth, have remained to old age unsusceptible of the latter.

With a knowledge of the facts contained in the above statement, it is presumed that no person can hesitate to embrace the opportunity now providentially offered of preserving his own family from so dreadful and destructive a pestilence as the Small Pox; and of contributing his part towards its total extirpation.



Name.	Name. No. Age. Parish. Virus from	Virus from whom obtained.	ined. Date of Inoculation.	Progress of Infection.				Constitutional Symptoms.	Remarks.	
				4th	8th	11th	15th			
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POSTSCRIPT.

Since this plan went to the press, the following very flattering and respectable approbation of the Royal Somerset Jennerian Society's plan has been received from J. ACLAND, Esq. Chairman of the Quarter Sessions for the County of Somerset:—

"Exmouth, Devon, May 25, 1805.

" SIR.

of the 24th ult. at the Sessions at Wells, and in conformity to the wishes of the Committee of the Royal Somerset Jennerian Society, I laid the letter, with the papers which accompanied it, before the Magistrates of the County assembled at the Sessions.

"It is with great pleasure I state to you the satisfaction they received from the communications made of the successful progress of the Society's endeavours to promote an object of so much promise and advantage to the happiness of mankind.—
They commissioned me to present their good wishes for the success of the laudable and patriotic zeal of the Committee, and to request them to receive a donation of twenty guineas in their name.

"It gives me particular satisfaction to make this communication to you, because I feel particularly interested in the measure, and hope that the support it will receive will be as extensive as its beneficial influence promises to be.

"I have the honour to be, with great respect,

"Your faithful and obedient humble servant,

"J. ACLAND."

"Thomas Creaser, Esq. "Surgeon, Bath."

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